

NPL Fall 2016 Stakeholder Message — All Stakeholders Except Bonita Peak

Dear _____,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is adding 10 and proposing to add eight hazardous waste sites to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL). These sites have contamination from a variety of sources, including manufacturing, mining, battery recycling and dry cleaning.

EPA adds sites to the NPL when contamination threatens public health and the environment. EPA typically initiates Superfund involvement at a site because states, tribes or citizens ask for the Agency's help. The Agency may also find contamination during its own investigations.

Superfund sites can threaten the health of entire communities. Some groups of people, such as children, pregnant women and the elderly, may be at particular risk. During environmental emergencies, health threats — poisoning, injuries from fires and explosions — are often urgent and immediate. At other sites, health effects of contamination — cancer, birth defects — may be more long term. Superfund cleans up or isolates contamination, keeping it away from people and the environment.

Ecosystems at Superfund sites can be harmed in two primary ways. First, contaminants can accumulate in plants and animals at abnormally high concentrations, reducing survival and growth rates. This accumulation can alter the composition of species in an area, seriously damage or destroy the ecosystem, and render fish, shellfish, game and plants inedible. Second, activities at some sites have resulted in destruction of vegetation and topsoil. The lack of plants means there is nothing to reduce stormwater runoff or provide wildlife habitat.

Superfund cleanups benefit the health of those who live on or near Superfund sites. Academic research has shown these cleanups reduce birth defects close to a site by as much as 25 percent. Additionally, cleanups involving lead-contaminated soil have contributed to documented reductions in children's blood-lead levels. If left unaddressed, elevated blood-lead levels may result in irreversible neurological deficits, such as lowered intelligence and attention-related behavioral problems.

Cleanups increase tax revenue and create jobs during and after cleanup. EPA reviewed 454 Superfund sites supporting use or reuse activities. It found at the end of fiscal year 2015 that these sites had approximately 3,900 businesses with 108,000 employees and annual sales of more than \$29 billion.

Community partnerships are critical to Superfund site cleanups. EPA's goal is to work with community partners at every site by establishing an effective process to fully explore future uses before the cleanup remedy's selection. This approach gives EPA the best chance of ensuring remedies are consistent with a site's likely future use.

New NPL sites:

Site Name	City/County	State	Site Type
Argonaut Mine	Jackson	Calif.	Hard-rock mining area
Bonita Peak Mining District	San Juan County	Colo.	Hard-rock mining area
West Vermont Drinking Water Contamination	Indianapolis	Ind.	Groundwater contamination
SBA Shipyard	Jennings	La.	Barge cleaning and repair
Anaconda Aluminum Co. Columbia Falls Reduction Plant	Columbia Falls	Mont.	Aluminum smelter
Wappinger Creek	Dutchess County	N.Y.	Various industrial operations
Valley Pike VOCs	Riverside	Ohio	Tire and truck molding manufacturing
Dorado Ground Water Contamination	Dorado	P.R.	Groundwater contamination
Eldorado Chemical Co., Inc.	Live Oak	Texas	Cleaning products manufacturing
North 25 th Street Glass and Zinc	Clarksburg	W.V.	Glass and zinc manufacturing

Proposed NPL sites:

Site Name	City/County	State	Site Type
Post and Lumber Preserving Co. Inc.	Quincy	Fla.	Wood treatment facility
Microfab Inc (Former)	Amesbury	Mass.	Metals manufacturing and electroplating
Old HWY 275 and N 288 th Street	Valley	Neb.	Groundwater contamination
Anaconda Copper Mine	Yerington	Nev.	Copper mine
Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics	Village of Hoosick Falls	N.Y.	Tape, foam and plastics manufacturing
The Battery Recycling Company	Bo. Cambalache	P.R.	Battery recycling
Former Custom Cleaners	Memphis	Tenn.	Dry cleaning
Highway 18 Ground Water	Kermit	Texas	Groundwater contamination

